

A

REVIEW

OF THE

STATE

OF THE

BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, May 27. 1708.

AND why should we not choose *Tories* to represent us, was the second Query which I propos'd to speak to in the present Case? What are these Sort of People you are pleas'd to give this Name to? They are Christians we hope, Protestants, *English Men*, they have Estates to lose, and Posterity to take care of, and Families to think of, as well as other People? Pray why must we not choose these Gentlemen you call *High Flyers*?

I could answer this by giving a Character of a *High-Flyer*; I could dress him up *a-la Scaramouch*, put the Cap upon his Head, and paint the Devil upon it to make him look frightful, and so expose him in his Native Follies, his Party-Madness, his Bottle Extravagancies; I could consider him in

his Anti Union, Oath-forgetting, Church-betraying, Queen-insulting Capacities; I could lay open his Memorial, his Occasional Bill, his Tacking, his Party-making Absurdities; I could enter upon his publick and his private Deliriums, his Cabinet, his Convocation, his Parliamentary Frenzy; and really it is hard to refrain from so flagrant a Character.

But I shall tell you a little of the Men in a more serious View of their past and present Conduct, which in its Nature ought to rouse up this Nation, from so much as a Dream of bringing in that horrid Generation upon us again.

Shall I address my self to you then, Gentlemen, who pretend to be Loyal to the Government, Steady to the Revolution,
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Clear in the Succession; in short, you that have taken the Abjuration, for it would be a horrid Suggestion, and a Man ought almost to be hang'd, that should think any that has done so can but be true to the Succession; in your Inquiry about *Tories* and *High Flyers*, whom you call Christians and Protestants, will you consider.

If you would have the Revolution damn'd for a cursed Rebellion; the Name of King *William* and Queen *Mary*, which are valuable and dear to all honest Men, perish from the Earth, and their Memory be loaded with Infamy and Reproach.

If you will allow the Setting King *William* and Queen *Mary* upon the Throne of *BRITAIN* was a Compleat National Perjury in them, an unnatural Usurpation, the worst Sort of Parricide, and in this Nation a hardened Defiance of the Laws of God, Nature and Government, a Sin that shall never be forgotten here, or forgiven hereafter.

If you will have a Sanction put upon all the Tyranny and illegal Practices of the two Anti-Revolution Reigns; if you will justify the Popish Practices to pull down the Church, and the Court Practices to pull down the Laws, and make all the Oppressions of that Time lawful.

If you will take upon you all the Guilt of the Blood spilt by King *James* in both these Kingdoms, and of all the Rapine and Violence committed upon the Estates of these free People; if you will be content to have 178 murder'd Innocents, whose Quarter'd Limbs lie now in one Grave in a Church-Yard in *Edinburgh*, executed by the Hand of the Hangman, for Things Nations ought to blush at the Thoughts of; some for Treasons they never knew of, some for Trifles incredible, some for refusing to declare their Opinion of other Men's Crimes, and some for scarcely a Pretence of Crime, with about 6000 others banish'd and murder'd in *Scotland* at sundry Times on the same Account.

If you will take upon you the Guilt of all the Blood-shed in this terrible War, still carrying on, which, we say, is for Liberty, and which this *Tory Party* would end, before

that Liberty is obtain'd — O choose *Tories*, Gentlemen, choose *High-Flyers*, these are the Men, who in their Practice manifestly lead you to the Necessity of all this, and in choosing whom, it is plain, you must come to every one of these Things, as Principles which all your Actions must rest upon —

Again, Gentlemen, you that are so fond of your *High-Flying* Christians.

IF you would renew our Occasional-Bill, repeal the Toleration, and restore Persecution in these Nations; if you would hang out the bloody Flag against *Dissenters* and have the Power put again into the Hand of a Party to ruin, plunder and impoverish their Neighbours, because they won't go to Heaven their Way, tho' they cannot deny they are as much in the true Road thither as themselves.

IF you would renew the War of Parties, not yet sufficiently ceased, revive the Flame of Contention not yet half extinguish'd; if you would return to *Covenent* Tumults, and are willing to see the honest Citizens and Inhabitants of your Towns fighting and knocking one another on the Head in the Streets. O Gentlemen, do but choose a *High Flying* Parliament, do but choose a *Tory* Parliament, it will be done presently.

IF you would give a Sanction to the Church-Memorial, prove the Bishops plotting to set up *Presbytery*, in order to advance themselves from their Lordship and Dignity to Calvinistical Parity, and in order to enrich themselves by giving up their large Revenues, take Possession of Parochial Stipends, to the Tune of 100 l. per Annum, and downward.

IF you would unsettle the Succession, and recognize the Right of King *James III.* *Fure Divino*, only allowing the Queen to possess the Crown during Life, and take care that be not over long too, making her Majesty accept of the Possession by Concession of a Pretender, and acknowledge the Settlement a Parliamentary Usurpation, and an Invasion of Right.

IF you would break the Union as a Court Combination forced upon the Nations

ons against their Consent, fatal to the Church, and particular to what we call High-Church, or that which would be the Church Rampant, and as an eternal Bar to the Restoration of Jacobitism and Tyranny.

IF you would make a Peace with France, *Higle de Pigl de*, as they call it, on French Terms, with or without Safety, or Honour, or Conditions, with or without Allies, as if ye were in a Condition to be forced to it.

IF you would retard Supplies, embarrass the Government, stagnate the Circulation of Treasure, sink Credit, and ruin the Funds on which the Nation depends, in which all our Families are embark'd, and on the Payment of which many depend for Bread.

IF you will put us all into Confusion, Party rising up against Party, and Family against Family, and assist the Animosities of an exasperated Kind of Men, to the Destruction of our Peace, the Interruption of Neighbourhood and Society, and make this flourishing Nation the Seat of all Manner of Confusions.

In short, IF you will bring back the French, land them safe in Scotland, call down a Flood of *Highlanders* and *Northern Jacobites* to join them, commence again the old *Northern Depredations* upon England, expose your honest Brethren in Scotland, who have lately appear'd so vigorous and hearty for the Government to all Manner of Desolation, and make your native Country the Seat of War, a Field of Blood, or a new *Aceldama*.

If these Prospects are suitable to you, Gentlemen, if your Designs lie this Way, then CHOOSE *TORIES* and *High-Flyers*, and send them up to the House, that by their mad precipitant Follies they may truly represent your own.

But after all, says the Enquirer, this is begging the Question; for how does it appear, that the *Tories* and *High-Flyers* will do all this. that they have such ill Designs, or that their Actions tend to it?

Blind and stupid Generation! Do you want Demonstrations of this? Is this a thing

that wants to be made out? Has not the whole Series of their Actions demonstrated that this is their Meaning? Are ye at a Loss to see this in their constant Practice in their Behaviour, both in publick and private, both with the Government with themselves, and with their Neighbours? Have not their bloody Flags, their Regalia's and Pontificates, their High-Church Memorial, their *Rehearsals*, their *Assize Sermons*, been always full of this?

Does not their Practice, their Conversation, their Projects, as a Body, or as single Men, always make it plain, that this is the real Scheme? How can it be any longer doubtful, but that the present Party, whom we call *Tory* or *High-Flyer*, do directly or consequentially in all their Actions drive at Things fatal to the Glory, Interest and Safety of this Kingdom; to the Peace, Happiness and Prosperity of the People; to the Defence and Preservation of the Crown, the Religion, and the Union of the whole Island—— But since they would pretend, that it remains a little doubtful as to Proof; I shall enquire still farther about it in my next.

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